

BRIDGE TEAM
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday, October 25, 2007

Meeting Attendees

Al Avant
Henry Black, PE
Donna Dancausse
Tom Drda, PE

Bill Goodwin, PE
Dave Henderson, PE
Cecil Jones, PE
Neil Lassiter, Jr., PE

G. R. Perfetti, PE
Mike Robinson, PE
Jeff Vones, PE
Njoroge Wainaina, PE

1. Update on Briefing to Highway Leadership Team

Mr. Perfetti summarized the meeting and noted the discussion centered on the sub regional design criteria and the Bridge Program Goal. The HLT requested that global qualitative measures for the Bridge Program Goal such as Good/Fair/Poor be developed with progress defined in those terms. This would supplement the proposed goal and not replace it.

The HLT also emphasized the elimination of bridges from the system wherever possible and suggested seeking guidance from the Rail Division on their at-grade closure process. Mr. Goodwin stated that in order to eliminate bridges both Board Members and County Commissioners must be in agreement. Historically there has been a very low success rate.

Mr. Perfetti presented historical data from the BMU database plotted against future needs and the Bridge Program Goal for reducing SD bridges. Using data from the past ten years, on average 173 new bridges are constructed each year of which 110 are bridge replacements while 213 bridges become structurally deficient. Extrapolating these trends shows demand for replacements will continue to outstrip current program delivery capabilities. In order to meet the Goal the program will need to deliver between 320 to 400 bridges per year. Mr. Goodwin stated this would have an approximate cost of roughly \$600 million dollars.

2. Bridge Issues from August 16 Meeting (w/CBMU & DBME)

The "Identification of Issues Associated with Maintenance of Bridges" meeting minutes were reviewed to determine where BT involvement was appropriate.

Subdivision & Encroachment Policy

Bridges, culverts, pipes added without proper notification (Div, Design, Maint). Utilities, e.g. water lines added that need to be relocated in future. Truss, Block Walls, 3 Sided Culvert usage. Inconsistent awareness of procedure for encroachment/future acceptance on state system submittals. Utilities on bridges and in NCDOT R/W.

The BT agreed that this topic become Initiative 22.

Impact of Construction Activities on Permits, Structure Acceptance,...

Coordination between Construction, Bridge Maintenance, Permit Group has potential for hauling issues, need for initial condition inspection. *Mr. Robinson stated that the Construction Unit will address the issue. The BT will not address this topic.*

Paving Over and Under Bridges

It was agreed that Maintenance and the Divisions need to coordinate in the short term, but that wording should be incorporated in the proposed "Standard Book of Bridge Maintenance Repair Details and Procedures."

Standard Book for Common Maintenance Repairs

It was agreed that this was part of I-20, Standard Book of Bridge Maintenance Repair Details and Procedures.

Deterioration of Steel Structures

It was agreed that this was part of I-4, Update the bridge preservation program.

Maintenance Activities for Bridges

It was agreed that this was part of both I-4 and I-20.

Delivery/Delay of TIP

The BT will not address this topic.

Bridge Maintenance Supervisors

It was suggested that Asset Management resurrect the Bridge Maintenance Supervisor Meetings. The BT will not address this topic.

Interstate Bridges

It was agreed that this was part of I-5, Investigate alternate financing sources.

Effect of Bare Pavement Policy

It was suggested that this be a Maintenance Focus Group topic.

Division Bridge Maintenance Staff

The BT will not address this topic.

Roles of Division and Central Bridge Maintenance Staff

The BT will not address this topic.

Non-Inventory Pipe System

It was suggested that this be a Maintenance Focus Group topic.

Site Appropriate Design

It was agreed that this was part of I-1, Develop Sub Regional Tier Policy for Bridge Projects.

Moveable Bridges

It was suggested that this be a Maintenance Focus Group topic.

Timber Bridges

It was agreed that this was part of I-2, Reexamine current TIP.

Forum for Feedback from Divisions

It was noted that Division personnel will be invited to participate in the FHWA/DOT Spring Field Review of bridges. The BT will not address this topic.

Plan of Action in Case of Bridge Failure

Who is media spokesperson? Dissemination of appropriate information- what does Freedom of Information require? Who documents forensics aspects? What is required at state and federal level?

The BT agreed that this topic become Initiative 23.

Deck drain systems

The BT will not address this topic.

Warranty

The BT will not address this topic.

3. Status Reports on Bridge Team Work Group Improvement Initiatives

Develop Sub Regional Tier Policy for Bridge Projects

Mr. Perfetti distributed the Sub Regional Tier Policy for Bridge Projects to the BT for review. A general discussion ensued: Sub Regional needs to be better defined, exclude major collectors, title the document “Policy” not “Guidelines,” consider addition of bicycle rail criteria, need to distribute for review and comment.

Reexamine Current TIP/Update Process of Estimating Project Cost

Mr. Avant mentioned that funds were set aside for 2013-2015 and decisions on project selection (additions/deletions) were needed by next month. Division engineers will be invited to participate in the process. Mr. Goodwin is working with Mr. Clemmons on replacement cost estimate based on existing deck area.

Update Bridge Preservation Program

Mr. Drda asked for review and comment of the draft Preservation Program document which is attached herewith. Mr. Avant noted that preservation funding has increased to \$5 million in 2008 and that bridge inspection funding increased from \$5 to \$11 million in 2008.

4. Use and Inspection of Adhesive Anchors

Mr. Jones explained that he was tasked with drafting a response to the NTSB regarding the Department’s use of adhesive anchors. Of specific interest are sustained tensile-load overhead applications and NCDOT’s inspection and repair program. Structure Design revised policy regarding usage and acceptance testing and the Divisions were asked for information about any utility hanger failures. It is anticipated that a Technical Bulletin will be developed.

5. Draft Agenda for Next Bridge Team Meeting (January 23, 10:00am – 12:00 noon)

Tentative agenda items were identified:

- FEMA Requirements
- Assignment of new Initiative Work Groups
- Initiative Work Group status reports
- Initiative Work Group closeout documentation

The BT members agreed that the quarterly meeting schedule is appropriate.